

## **7. MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT (MCU)**

### **7.1 GENERAL**

York County 911 operates a Mobile Communications Unit (MCU) and an Incident Dispatch Team (IDT). The IDT consists of an IDT Director, three IDT Leaders and certified/qualified dispatchers who have received specialized training to perform communications, resource status, and documentation support at an incident scene. The IDT and MCU is available and equipped to respond to incidents within the County of York and the South Central Task Force at the request of an Incident Commander (IC).

### **7.2 RESOURCES**

The MCU is a 33 foot mobile-home type vehicle. It is equipped with 3 dispatch work stations to the front and a command post in the rear. The unit has all the capabilities of the communications center. It also contains a cache of 6 portable radios. The vehicle has satellite internet and telephones, Direct TV, portable weather monitoring station, and a 25 foot mast-mounted camera. The vehicle has the capability to operate with other communications units and agencies by using integrated technology.

The communications are completely interoperable and consist of low band, VHF, UHF, Open Sky, 800 MHz radio, 512 MHz radio, aviation and marine radios.

The command post features a conference area, Smart Board, white boards, plotter, and projector. There are 5 monitors to view the computers, television and camera. An outside work area can be established under an awning. It includes tables, chairs, easels and white board. Wi-Fi access is available. There is a small galley with a microwave, refrigerator, coffee maker and toilet.

The vehicle has an on-board generator and a shore line for electric power. It can also be connected to local telephone lines.

### **7.3 RESPONSE**

The IDT can be called out by an IC any time an incident reaches a stage where the IDT's involvement would be

beneficial. The 911 Shift Supervisor may also activate the team when an incident or group of incidents reaches a stage where their response to the 911 Center would be valuable in either assisting on-duty dispatchers or in anticipation of an IDT call-out.

The IDT will respond automatically on Hazmat incidents where the hazmat team is deployed in a hot status, and Level II Mass Casualty events. The Team will be placed on standby on 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm fires and the dispatcher will check with command to see if the team is needed.